

Message Text

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FOR EB/ICO/TRP

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TAGS: ETRD, EAGR

SUBJ: COCOA: THIRD MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL COCOA
ORGANIZATION (ICCO) STATISTICS COMMITTEE, MARCH 6, 1975

1. THE THIRD STATISTICS COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE ICCO
WAS HELD ON MARCH 6, 1975. US OBSERVERS THIGPEN AND
PILKAUSKAS ATTENDED. ALSO PRESENT WERE OBSERVERS FROM
ZAIRE, NICARAGUA, PANAMA, FAO, MADAGASCAR, SRI LANKA
AND POLAND.

2. THE ESTIMATE FOR COCOA BEAN PRODUCTION FOR 1973/74
WAS INCREASED TO 1,415,600 METRIC TONS FROM THE PREVIOUS
ESTIMATE OF 1,407,400 METRIC TONS. ESTIMATED GRINDINGS
FOR 1974 WERE DECREASED TO 1,463,700 METRIC TONS FROM
1,477,400 METRIC TONS. PRODUCTION FOR 1974/75 WAS
FORECAST AT 1,448,700 METRIC TONS, UP 16,000 METRIC
TONS FROM THE LAST FORECAST. GRINDINGS ARE FORECAST
AT 1,407,000 METRIC TONS FOR 1974/75, A DECREASE OF
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16,000 METRIC TONS FROM THE LAST FORECAST. DETAILS

FOR INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES WILL APPEAR IN THE SECOND ISSUE OF THE ICCO QUARTERLY BULLETIN OF COCOA STATISTICS TO BE RELEASED NEXT WEEK.

3. AFTER AN INTERCHANGE BETWEEN CANADA AND GHANA OVER A GHANIAN PROPOSAL FOR INCLUSION OF A COMMODITY PRICE INDEX AND A COMMODITY PRICE DEFLATOR IN THE STATISTICAL DOCUMENT, THE MATTER WAS HANDED TO THE SECRETARIAT FOR FURTHER STUDY AND PREPARATION OF A PAPER.

4. THE ICCO WILL HENCEFORTH IMPOSE DEADLINES FOR STATISTICAL SUBMISSIONS ON MEMBERS. THE US WAS SPECIFICALLY CITED FOR ITS EXCELLENT COOPERATION IN PROVIDING STATISTICAL INFORMATION.

5. THE ICCO STUDY OF THE WORLD'S CURRENT AND POTENTIAL PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION CAPACITY FOR COCOA HAS NOW BEGUN IN EARNEST. DR. VITON OF FAO HAS BEEN HIRED AS A CONSULTANT FOR 2-3 MONTHS TO PREPARE THE REPORT, WHICH SHOULD BE READY BY THE NEXT COUNCIL SESSION IN AUGUST.

6. THE NEXT STATISTICAL COMMITTEE MEETING WILL BE IN AUGUST, DURING THE MEETING OF THE COCOA COUNCIL.

7. COMMENT: IN CONVERSATIONS WITH EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COCOA ORGANIZATION IT BECAME CLEAR THAT THE ICCO IS UNDER PRESSURE FROM UNCTAD TO HOLD RENEGOTIATIONS UNDER UNCTAD RATHER THAN IN THE ICCO FORUM. A FINAL DECISION ON LOCATION WILL NOT BE MADE UNTIL THE AUGUST COCOA COUNCIL MEETING. NEGOTIATIONS WILL PROBABLY BEGIN IN THE FALL OF 1975 AND MAY CONTINUE WITH A SECOND SESSION IN THE SPRING OF 1976. THE PRINCIPAL POINTS TO BE COVERED WILL BE DETERMINED IN THE NEXT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SESSION MEETING THE WEEK OF MARCH 9.
RICHARDSON

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